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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

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Signature of person mailing correspondence

MAY 1 6 2001

Applicant:

Junying Yuan, et al.

Art Unit:

1626

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Serial No.:

09/688,015

Examiner:

A. D'Souza

Filed:

October 13, 2000

Customer No.:

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Title:

SMALL MOLECULE INHIBITOR'S OF NECROSIS

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

## REPLY TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT AND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

In reply to the Examiner's action mailed April 10, 2001, Applicant elects the invention of Group I claims, 1, 2, 9-10, 17-23 (in part), 24-25, and 32-37 (in part). The election is made without traverse.

Kindly amend the claims as follows:

17. The method of claim 9, wherein said cell is capable of undergoing necrosis in the presence of zVAD-fmk and TNF $\alpha$ .